

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175759

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, RO, KN, VN

SUBJECT: U.S./ROMANIAN DISCUSSION ON MAJOR ISSUES IN UN

SUMMARY: ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR CORNELIU BOGDAN CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM (IO) ON JULY 23 TO DISCUSS MAJOR ISSUES LIKELY TO BE RAISED IN 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND THE 30TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE UNGA. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN MEETING INCLUDED: 1) U.S. APPROACH TO 7TH SPECIAL SESSION; 2) ATTEMPTS BY SOME GROUPS TO OUST ISRAEL FROM THE UN; 3) PROSPECTS FOR REFORM OF UN SYSTEM; 4) IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE IN KOREA; AND 5) APPLICATIONS OF BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH VIET-NAM FOR UN MEMBERSHIP. BRIEF COMMENTS WERE ALSO MADE ON DISARMAMENT AND THE EUROPEAN CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY CONFERENCE (CSCE). END SUMMARY.

1. CALLING ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO) BUFFUM ON JULY 23, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR CORNELIU BOGDAN SAID THAT IN ORDER TO

PREPARE HIMSELF FOR PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO ROMANIA ON AUGUST 2-3, HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WHAT U.S. THINKS WILL BE MAJOR ISSUES IN 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND 30TH REGULAR SESSION OF UNGA, AND WHAT POSITIONS OR INITIATIVES THE USG IS LIKELY TO TAKE.

2. SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION: BOGDAN SAID THAT HE READ

THE SECRETARY'S MILWAUKEE SPEECH "WITH GREAT INTEREST" AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT U.S. POLICY INITIATIVES MAY BE EXPECTED AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. BUFFUM REPLIED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER IS PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PROGRAM TO PUT BEFORE THIS ASSEMBLY, BUT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO DISCUSS POLICIES WHICH ARE NOW BEING FORMULATED IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND CONGRESS. WITH REGARD TO THE EXPECTED ATMOSPHERE AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, BUFFUM NOTED THAT TWO TRENDS WERE DEVELOPING IN THE GROUP OF 77: ONE TREND WAS FOR IDEOLOGICAL PURITY, REPRESENTED BY COUNTRIES WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CERDS AND NIEO RESOLUTIONS. A SECOND TREND, REPRESENTED BY PERHAPS A MORE NUMEROUS GROUP, WAS MOVING TOWARD MODERATION AFTER HAVING ESTABLISHED THE PRINCIPLES OF THESE TWO RESOLUTIONS. EXPRESSING HOPE THAT THIS LATTER TREND WILL PREVAIL, BUFFUM SAID THAT THE U.S. WILL APPROACH THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, AS WE SEE NO PURPOSE IN CONFRONTATION. POINTING OUT THAT THE TRANSFER OF RESOURCES CANNOT BE "FORCED" ON THE BASIS OF A RESOLUTION, HE SAID THE U.S. SEEKS A DIALOGUE ON HOW THIS MIGHT BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED. BOTH MEN GENERALLY AGREED THAT ONLY THE GLOBAL PICTURE CAN BE DISCUSSED AT THE TWO-WEEK SPECIAL SESSION, WHILE DETAILED PROGRAMS WILL BE WORKED OUT LATER IN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SUCH AS THE FAO.

3. ISRAEL: BUFFUM POINTED OUT THAT RECENT ILO AND UNESCO ACTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL HAVE EVOKED STRONG NEGATIVE REACTIONS IN CONGRESS, WHICH IS NOW HOLDING UP
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APPROPRIATION FOR U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO ILO. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT EARLIER THAT DAY GEORGE MEANY, IN A SPEECH BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, HAD CALLED FOR A CONGRESSIONAL CUT-OFF OF ALL VOLUNTARY U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNDP, SINCE A LARGE PORTION OF UNDP FUNDS GO TO UNESCO AND ILO AS EXECUTING AGENCIES. GIVEN PRESSURES OF AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION, BUFFUM EXPRESSED CONCERN AT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF ISRAEL WERE TO BE EXPELLED FROM UNGA AND ASKED IF ROMANIANS HAD TAKEN A POSITION ON THIS QUESTION. BOGDAN SAID ROMANIA HAD NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION, BUT POINTED OUT THAT THE ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WAS RECENTLY IN ISRAEL AND THAT ROMANIA HAS ALWAYS TRIED TO REMAIN "OPEN TO BOTH SIDES IN THE

MIDDLE EAST." HE ALSO INDICATED THAT ROMANIA PROBABLY WILL NOT BE PRESENT AT THE NEXT MEETING OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN LIMA THIS AUGUST WHERE THIS ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED. BUFFUM STRESSED THAT U.S. WAS CONCERNED WITH CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF THIS QUESTION, SINCE WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY OPPOSED DENIAL OF UN MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES TO COUNTRIES BECAUSE OF OPPOSITION TO THEIR POLICIES. ALSO,

FROM A POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW, WE THINK IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS TO EXPELL ISRAEL FROM THE UN SINCE UN RESOLUTION 242 IS THE ONLY AGREED FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATION AND UN FORCES WOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF ANY DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. WHEN BUFFUM EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT THE SYRIANS ARE THE REAL INSTIGATORS OF EFFORT TO EXPELL ISRAEL FROM UN, BOGDAN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT "PERHAPS SOME INTERIM AGREEMENT CAN BE WORKED OUT," SINCE IN HIS VIEW THE SYRIANS HAVE RECENTLY APPEARED MORE MODERATE.

4. REFORM OF THE UN SYSTEM: BOGDAN ASKED FOR U.S. VIEWS ON REPORT OF EXPERT COMMITTEE OF 25. BUFFUM SAID HE DOUBTED WHETHER U.S. OR UN AS A WHOLE WOULD BE READY TO TAKE A POSITION ON THE REPORT AT 30TH UNGA. EXPRESSING VIEW THAT SOME OF COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS WERE FINE, WHILE OTHERS WERE TROUBLESOME, BUFFUM SUGGESTED THAT AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP BE CREATED AT THE UNGA TO EXAMINE THE REPORT IN GREATER DETAIL. POINTING OUT THAT MOST OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CALLED FOR RESTRUCTURING WITHIN THE UN CHARTER, BUFFUM SAID THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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WHILE U.S. FAVORS UN REFORM, WE DO NOT WANT TO CHANGE THE CHARTER. BOGDAN NOTED THAT ROMANIANS HAD VOTED AGAINST CHARTER REVISION "BECAUSE WE WANTED TO KEEP OUR FRIENDS (I.E., THE SOVIETS) HAPPY." HE INDICATED THAT WHILE MUCH CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN CHARTER, ROMANIANS ARE BEGINNING TO FEEL THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS IMPROVING UN SYSTEM WITHOUT CONSIDERING CHANGES IN CHARTER.

5. KOREA: WHEN ASKED WHAT OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES WERE LIKELY TO COME UP IN THE UNGA, BUFFUM SAID WE ANTICIPATE KOREA TO BE AN IMPORTANT ISSUE. HE STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH THE U.S. DOESN'T NECESSARILY WANT TO SEE INCREASED UN PRESENCE THERE, WE THINK IT'S ESSENTIAL FOR PEACE THAT THE ARMISTICE BE MAINTAINED -- SINCE WE WOULD NOT WANT ANY UNCERTAINTY OVER THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT TO STIMULATE MILITARY ADVENTURISM IN NORTH KOREA. BOGDAN SAID THAT IN RECENT VISIT TO ROMANIA, NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG GAVE IMPRESSION THAT HE IS WILLING TO TALK WITH U.S. OFFICIALS AND IS COMMITTED TO POLICY OF PEACEFUL UNIFICATION WITH SOUTH. WHEN BUFFUM POINTED OUT THAT SOUTH KOREANS ARE ALSO WILLING TO TALK WITH NORTH, BOGDAN SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS KOREANS SHOULD BE GIVEN "INTER-

NATIONAL HELP" IN THIS EFFORT, AND ADDED THAT "FOREIGN TROOPS ARE ALWAYS A SOURCE OF TROUBLE." BUFFUM REPLIED THAT WE HAVE NO INTEREST IN KEEPING U.S. TROOPS WHERE THEY'RE NOT WANTED, AND IT IS SOUTH KOREANS WHO ARE BEGGING US TO KEEP THEM THERE. BOGDAN NOTED THAT NORTH KOREANS ARE PURSUING AN "INDEPENDENT POLICY," AND

SUGGESTED THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO "TALK WITH THEM, NOT GIVE THEM LESSONS." BUFFUM OBSERVED THAT IF NORTH AND SOUTH VIET-NAM ARE ADMITTED TO THE UN, THE KOREAS WILL BE THE ONLY DIVIDED COUNTRIES LEFT OUT, NOW THAT E. AND W. GERMANY HAVE BEEN ADMITTED. HE OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT ADMISSION OF SOUTH KOREA WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE UNLESS NORTH KOREA WERE TO CHANGE ITS POSITION AND WONDERED IF THIS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. BOGDAN APPEARED TO AGREE THAT SOME CHANGE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE BUT, IN THE MEANTIME, ROMANIA HAD TO SUPPORT NORTH KOREA'S POSITION ON THIS POINT.

6. VIET-NAM: BUFFUM ASKED BOGDAN IF HE KNEW WHY NORTH
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AND SOUTH VIET-NAM WERE BOTH APPLYING FOR UN MEMBERSHIP WHEN HANOI HAD SAID IT WOULD FOLLOW THE NORTH KOREAN POLICY OF NOT APPLYING FOR UN MEMBERSHIP UNTIL UNIFICATION HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. BOGDAN SAID HE THOUGHT THE VIETNAMESE HAD CHANGED THEIR POLICY. HE ADDED THAT THE ROMANIANS THINK SOUTH VIET-NAM WILL REMAIN A SEPARATE ENTITY FOR SOME TIME, SINCE THERE REMAIN, IN HIS VIEW, MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE VIET-CONG AND HANOI.

7. OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH BOGDAN RAISED IN DISCUSSION WERE DISARMAMENT AND THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE (CSCE). EXPRESSING ROMANIA'S DEEP CONCERN ABOUT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, HE ASKED WHETHER THERE WOULD BE A MAJOR DISARMAMENT INITIATIVE IN THE UNGA. BUFFUM REPLIED THAT USSR USUALLY INTRODUCES A DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL IN EACH GA, BUT IT IS TOO SOON TO KNOW THEIR PLANS FOR THIS YEAR. BOGDAN ALSO EXPRESSED SURPRISE ABOUT NEGATIVE U.S. PRESS REACTION TO CSCE. HE SAID THE ROMANIANS WOULD HAVE LIKED CSCE TO GO FARTHER THAN IT DID IN REDUCING MILITARY PRESENCE IN BORDER AREAS. BOTH MEN AGREED THAT CSCE IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF, BUT THAT ITS EFFECTIVENESS WILL DEPEND ON EXTENT TO WHICH CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS ARE CARRIED OUT. KISSINGER

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